

Mission & Vision Statements

Mission

In partnership with the community,

we will create and maintain

neighborhoods capable

of sustaining civic life.

We commit to reducing

the levels of crime, fear and disorder through community-based,

problem-oriented

and data-driven policing.

Vision

A Milwaukee where all can live safely and without fear, protected by a police department with the highest ethical and professional standards.



Milwaukee Police Department 749 West State Street Milwaukee, WI 53233 www.milwaukee.gov/police

> Edward A. Flynn Chief of Police

Family and Friends

Welcome to our semi-annual Merit Awards Ceremony.

This evening, the Milwaukee Police Department is proud to honor and recognize members of our organization and everyday citizens for the extraordinary acts they performed. These brave and selfless men and women placed their lives on the line for the safety of our community.

We gather to honor our award recipients twice a year but the work of the Milwaukee Police Department takes place every minute of every day. Please join me as we celebrate and congratulate these remarkable individuals who are committed to forwarding the vision and mission of our Department. They are examples that we can all follow in our daily lives.

To our award recipients, I commend you on a job well done!

Sincerely,

Edward A. Flynn Chief of Police

Invited Guests

City of Milwaukee Tom Barrett Mayor

The Milwaukee Common Council Ashanti Hamilton Common Council President

Ashanti Hamilton	Cavalier Johnson	Nik Kovac	Robert J. Bauman
1st District	2nd District	3rd District	4th District
James A. Bohl Jr. 5th District	Milele A. Coggs	Khalif J. Rainey	Robert G. Donovan
	6th District	7th District	8th District
Chantia Lewis 9th District	Michael J. Murphy	<i>Mark A. Borkowski</i>	<i>José G. Pérez</i>
	10th District	11th District	12th District
Terry L. Witkowski	<i>Tony Zielinski</i>	Russell W. Stamper II	
13th District	14th District	15th District	

Milwaukee Fire and Police Commission MaryNell Regan Executive Director

Kathryn Hein	Fred Crouther	Michael M. O'Hear
Commissioner	Commissioner	Commissioner
Ann Wilson	Marisabel Cabrera	Steven M. De Vougas
Commissioner	Commissioner	Commissioner

Other Invited Guests

Command Staff Milwaukee Police Department	Milwaukee Police Supervisors' Organization	John T. Chisholm Milwaukee County
-		District Attorney
Milwaukee Police	Family and	
Association	Friends	

Merit Awards Program

Musical Prelude

Milwaukee Police Band Retired Lieutenant Karen M. Dubis Director

Welcome

Captain Nicole J. Davila Police Academy

Honor Guard and Presentation of Colors

Lieutanant Charles Berard Sergeant Scott F. Thorne Police Officer Trent Little Police Officer Joel R. Rossmann Police Officer Cliff Stephens Police Officer Thomas L. Struck

National Anthem Milwaukee Police Band

Remarks

Mayor Tom Barrett City of Milwaukee

Remarks and Presentation Police Chief Edward A. Flynn Milwaukee Police Department

Mistress of Ceremonies
Ms. Shannon Sims,
WTMJ - Channel 4 News

Award Classifications

Medal of Honor



The Medal of Honor is the highest award granted by the Milwaukee Police Department. It is awarded to a member for exceptional bravery at the imminent risk of life or serious bodily injury. The recipient has demonstrated exceptional courage by performing a voluntary action in an extremely dangerous situation. The act may involve situations where deadly force is used against an officer and the officer prevails or a rescue situation in which the risk of death or injury was substantial.

The Medal of Valor



Combat



Rescue

The Medal of Valor is presented to a member who has performed a deed of personal bravery or self-sacrifice so conspicuous as to clearly distinguish himself/herself for gallantry and intrepidity. The act goes beyond normal demands and is of such a nature that the member was fully aware of the threat to his/her safety and acted above and beyond the call of duty at the risk of his/her own life.

Lifesaving



The Lifesaving Award is presented to a member who is directly responsible for saving a human life. A member is eligible to receive this award if his/her actions led to the prolonging of the life of a victim to the extent that the victim was released to professional medical care.

Purple Valor/Star





The Purple Valor/Purple Star Award is presented to a member who, in the line of duty, sustains any serious bodily injury or permanent disfigurement or permanent or protracted impairment of the function of any body member or organ or permanent or protracted impairment of health. A "V" device will signify combatrelated serious bodily injury.

Award Classifications

Chief's Superior Leadership



The Chief's Superior Leadership Award is presented to a member at the discretion of the Chief of Police for leadership excellence in the performance of duty and/or honorable conduct and professionalism in pursuit of the Department's mission.

Distinguished Service



The Distinguished Service Award is presented to a member who has continuously distinguished himself/herself by exceptional service in the performance of his/her duties or great or unusual responsibility wherein he/she has displayed unusual responsibility and initiative, marked ability, keen observation and exceptional energy.

Excellence in Police Service



The Excellence in Police Service Award is presented to a member who makes a significant contribution, above and beyond the call of duty, to the community-service component of the Department's mission. The award recognizes those instances over a period of time wherein the member's diligence, teamwork, perseverance and problem-solving ability exemplifies the highest standards of community policing.

Meritorious Service



The Meritorious Service Award is presented to a member who makes a significant contribution to the mission of the Milwaukee Police Department above and beyond the normal call of duty. It recognizes those instances wherein a member's courage, resourceful-ness, tenacity, diligence and/or perseverance in the line of duty goes beyond that which is normally ex-pected of members in the protection of life or property, the prevention of a major crime or the apprehension of an armed and/or dangerous criminal.

Unit Service



The Unit Service Award is presented to a Departmental Unit whose actions through a combination of teamwork, diligence and perseverance is performed in an exemplary manner.

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District 1

<u>District 1</u>	
Police Officer Paul M. Helminiak	Lifesaving
Police Officer Timothy W. Ptaszek	Lifesaving
Captain of Police Eric J. Moore	Meritorious Service
Police Officer Warren K. McDuffie Sr	Meritorious Service
Mr. Donald D. Gwinn	Valorous Conduct
Mr. Walter T. Wojtyra	Valorous Conduct
<u>District 2</u>	
Police Officer Jacob Spano	
Police Officer Jose A. Acevedo	Lifesaving
Police Officer Terrell S. Velazquez	Lifesaving
Police Officer Erin A. Jackson	. Excellence in Police Service
Police Officer Kenneth J. Justus	
Police Officer Taylor D. Baas	
Police Officer Derek J. Kitts	
Police Officer Mark J. Swieciak Jr	
Police Officer Scott A. Voeks	Meritorious Service
District 3	
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Police Officer Kathryn L. Anderer Police Officer Stephen L. Dombrowski	Lifesaving
Police Officer Joseph D. Goggins Police Officer William P. Schmitz	Lifesaving
Police Officer Charles K. Seelow	
Police Officer Matthew J. Wenzel	
Police Officer Kevin G. Gaulke	0
Police Officer Michael Lopez	
Mr. Michael A. Beal	
Ms. Elizabeth D. Nelson	
Ms. Vanessa Vasquez	
Ms. Annette Velez	
Ms. Claudia Villarreal	
Mr. Ronald L. Williams	
Mr. Ronaid L. Williams	Meritorious Conduct
District 4	
Police Officer William T. Kingston III	Medal of Valor-Combat
Police Officer Daniel W. Stachoviak	
Police Officer Lee Xiong	
Police Officer Nicholas J. Gronwall	
Police Officer Matthew G. Helwer	
Police Officer Marshall Jones	
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District 4

Police Officer Phillip B. Lewis		
District 5		
Police Officer Chad E. Boyach		
Police Officer Mark S. Dillman Lifesaving		
Police Officer Matthew R. Jackson Lifesaving		
Police Officer Nicholas M. Kropp Lifesaving		
Police Officer Bryan K. Miller Lifesaving		
Police Officer Anthony J. Milone Lifesaving		
Police Officer Ryan M. Reagan Lifesaving		
Police Officer Daniel A. Resnick Lifesaving		
Police Officer Damon M. Wilcox Lifesaving		
Police Officer Edward A. Ciano Distinguished Service		
Police Officer Brian D. Matte Distinguished Service		
Police Officer Robert J. Gregory Excellence in Police Service		
Meritorious Service		
Police Officer Jesse J. Busshardt		
Police Officer Curtis J. Pelczynski Meritorious Service		
District 6		
Police Officer James B. Johnson Medal of Valor-Rescue		
Police Officer Jutiki X Medal of Valor-Rescue		
Police Officer James J. DauerLifesaving		
Police Officer Brandon J. Baranowski Purple Star		
Police Sergeant Joseph W. Honzelka Meritorious Service		
Police Officer Vincent M. Andrysczyk Meritorious Service		
Police Officer Fabian Garcia Meritorious Service		
Police Officer Justin M. Jolliff Meritorious Service		
Police Officer Susan M. Laroque-Wishowski Meritorious Service		
Police Officer Michael S. Maldonado Meritorious Service		
District 7		
Police Officer Peter R. Hauser		
Police Officer (Ret.) Zebdee Wilson Medal of Valor-Combat		
Police Officer Troy L. Mason Lifesaving		
Police Aide Jonathan C. Schroeder Lifesaving		
Police Officer David J. Bettin		
Police Officer David L. Claas		
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Police Officer Trinidad Rodriguez		

Central Booking and Court Administration Police Officer Sarah A. Polka
Facilities Services Division Custodial Worker II Joe Adams
Investigative Management Division Forensic Investigator Chet St. Clair
Marine Boats/Mounted PatrolPolice Officer Tobias J. Golembiewski IIILifesavingPolice Officer Wyatt GraikowskiLifesavingPolice Officer Arthur R. KleistLifesavingPolice Officer Alejandro LealLifesavingPolice Officer Joseph L. SzcyubialkaLifesavingPolice Officer John R. TietjenLifesaving
Metropolitan Investigations Division
Detective Marlon E. Davis Meritorious Service Detective Rosemarie C. Galindo Meritorious Service Detective Katherine M. Spano Meritorious Service Detective Harold D. Thomas Meritorious Service Detective Michael C. Washington Meritorious Service Detective Erik K. Villarreal Meritorious Service
Narcotics DivisionCaptain of Police Jeffery C. MicklitzExcellence in Police ServiceDetective Abner ValcarcelExcellence in Police ServicePolice Officer Evelyn LazoExcellence in Police Service
Neighborhood Task Force
Police Officer Steven J. Kuspa
Police Officer Casey C. Donahue
Police Sergeant Michael C. Karwoski Meritorious Service Police Officer Joseph M. Boehlke Meritorious Service Police Officer Daniel J. Floyd Meritorious Service
Police Officer Lane C. Grady

<u>Award Recupients</u>
Neighborhood Task Force Police Officer Erik D. Rodriguez
North Investigations Division Detective Rodney B. Young
Office of Community Outreach and Education Police Officer Joseph G. Spingola, Jr
Police Academy
Police Officer Matthew J. Murray Lifesaving
Meritorious Service
Recruiting Section Police Officer Courtland A. Pederson
Sensitive Crimes Division Detective Sarah C. Blomme Meritorious Service Police Officer James R. Henry Jr Meritorious Service
South Investigations Division Detective Alexander C. Ayala
<u>Technical Communications Division</u> Emergency Communication Operator II Nancy E. Daniels Meritorious Service
<u>Unit Service Award Recipients</u> <u>Bless Team</u> Police Lieutenant Shaun P. Doyne Detectives Matthew Cooper John H. Ivy
Martez L. Ball Andrew J. Molina John L. Schott Joseph L. Esqueda Christopher J. Randazzo Ashley E. Van Drisse Gregory M. Kuspa

S. M. P. D.	W. A. P. D.	DCI Special Agent
Investigator Craig Perkowski	Detective Michael Sitter	Bodo Gajevic

Assistant District Attorney

Laura Crivello

DEA Special Agentt

James Krueger

Investigative Analyst

Ashley Hindo

District One

Captain Eric J. Moore

Police Officer Tobias J. Golembiewski III

Police Officer Wyatt Graikowski Police Officer Paul M. Helminiak Police Officer Arthur R. Kleist Police Officer Alejandro Leal Police Officer Timothy W. Ptaszek Police Officer Joseph L. Szczybialka

Police Officer John R. Tietjen

Lifesaving Award

On February 28, 2016, officers responded to a call of a mother and her toddler in the water near Government Pier on Milwaukee's Lakefront. Several officers jumped into the frigid water and pulled both people to dry land. Other officers began rescue breathing and compressions, at which time both individuals regained a pulse and were transported to a local hospital. The mother went into the water with the intention of killing herself and her child. She would have been successful if not for the selfless efforts of these officers.

Mr. Donald D. Gwinn Mr. Walter T. Wojtyra

Valorous Conduct

On May 15th, 2016, Mr. Gwinn and Mr. Wojtyra were fishing on Lake Michigan. They saw four citizens in the water and heard them calling for help. The rough water and winds had ferociously capsized their small eleven foot motorboat. Without hesitation, the men pulled all four people from the 47 degree water and conveyed them to McKinley Marina. Medical help provided immediate treatment. If not for the quick thinking and actions of these men, the situation could have turned tragic, as a result of their exposure to the freezing water.

District Two

Captain Heather N. Wurth

Police Officer Matthew J. Murray

Police Officer Terrell S. Velazguez

Lifesaving Award

On August 14, 2016, Officers Murray and Velazquez were dispatched to a sick and injured call near 10th and Cleveland. While enroute, they observed a woman walking down the street who matched the broadcasted description. The woman appeared to be drugged because she was nodding in and out of consciousness and slurring her speech. Suddenly she slumped over and became unresponsive. The officers quickly administered Narcan. The woman instantly became alert and began to breathe on her own. Medical assistance was requested and the woman was conveyed to the hospital for further treatment. The quick thinking, heroic actions and determination of these officers saved the woman's life.

Captain Heather N. Wurth

District Two

Police Officer Erin A. Jackson

Police Officer Kenneth J. Justus Excellence in Police Service Award

A sexual assault complaint was made to District Two of the Milwaukee Police Department in early 2016. During the course of this investigation, information came to light that the suspect was soliciting prostitutes, drugging and filming them while engaged in sexual activity. These acts were committed without their consent. From February 2016 to April 2016, Officers Jackson and Justus worked tirelessly to identify the victims. Eventually, more than a dozen women were identified and interviewed. The officers' investigative work led to the arrest of a criminal who was removed from society. Officers Jackson and Justus displayed compassion and understanding in dealing with the victims of such a personal and abusive crime. Their work resulted in 52 felony charges issued against the suspect and brought a dangerous criminal to justice.

Police Officer Taylor D. Baas Police Officer Mark J. Swieciak, Jr. Meritorious Service Award

On September 8, 2016, Officers Baas and Swieciak were on an investigation when they noticed a citizen walking their dog on the sidewalk near 25th and Lapham. The officers observed a pit bull run off a porch and began to attack the citizen and his pet. Officer Swieciak attempted to use his department OC spray but with no effect on the pit bull. Officer Baas deployed his tazer in an attempt to release the dog's grip from the citizen's arm. The probes struck the dog and it retreated back to its home. Officers Baas and Swieciak demonstrated courage and exceptional quick thinking when they were confronted with this dangerous situation which could have resulted in serious injuries.

Police Officer Derek J. Kitts Meritorious Service Award

On July 4, 2016, Officer Kitts was on his way home from work and saw a vehicle at the end of the alley with its lights on. A suspect carrying an object came out of a nearby garage. An initial interview with the suspect revealed a robbery was in progress. Officer Kitts immediately contacted dispatch to have officers meet him at this location. The suspect was taken into custody by the responding officer. Officer Kitts demonstrated courage and quick thinking while being alone and with an individual that had just committed a felonious act.

Police Officer Scott A. Voeks Meritorious Service Award

On July 12, 2016, Officer Voeks responded to a domestic violence complaint near 16th and Forest Home. The caller stated her husband hit and threatened to kill her. Officer Voeks attempted to make contact with the husband at his home but the man refused to open the door and fired his weapon.

District Two

Captain Heather N. Wurth

Officer Voeks proceeded to contact the husband by phone where he talked with him for nearly an hour. The man made it clear he had ammunition and was willing to shoot at police. His actions caused a large scale police response, including the deployment from the Tactical Enforcement Unit. Officer Voeks' phone conversation was instrumental in convincing the subject to surrender without further incident. Officer Voeks demonstrated courage when confronted with an individual determined to cause harm to those around him.

<u>District Three</u> <u>Captain Shunta A. Boston-Smith</u>

Detective Alexander C. Ayala

Police Officer Jose A. Acevedo Lifesaving Award

Ms. Vanessa Vasquez Ms. Annette Velez

Ms. Claudia Villarreal Meritorious Conduct Award

On July 26, 2016, Detective Ayala and Officer Acevedo were attending a fundraising event off-duty at Miller Park. They learned of a missing 6-year-old autistic child. Ms. Vasquez, Ms. Velez, and Ms. Villarreal saw the child in deep water near a bridge and began to alert everyone in the area. Upon hearing the frantic screams, Detective Ayala assisted by Officer Acevedo, pressed through the undercurrents of the river to retrieve the child. The child was brought safely to shore and returned to his distraught father. The group's immediate response and coordinated effort prevented a possible drowning of a child.

Police Officer Kathryn L. Anderer Police Officer Charles K. Seelow

Lifesaving Award

On June 16, 2016, Officers Anderer and Seelow responded to a suicide attempt on the 35th Street Viaduct where the drop is 70 feet to the ground. A female subject was sitting on the bridge and threatening to jump. Officer Seelow positioned himself opposite the woman while Officer Anderer began talking with the distraught female. She became distracted for a brief moment and turned toward Officer Anderer. Officer Seelow recognized the opportunity to act immediately and pulled the woman away from the edge of the bridge. The officers continued to calm the woman using their Crisis Intervention Training. She was conveyed to the Milwaukee County Mental Health Complex for observation and treatment. The officers' skillful use of their de-escalation training prevented the loss of life.

Police Officer Stephen L. Dombrowski
Police Officer William P. Schmitz

Lifesaving Award

On May 30, 2016, Officers Dombrowski and Schmitz responded to a shooting near 36th and Clarke where two victims were engaged in an altercation.

District Three Captain Shunta A. Boston-Smith

One of the victims was not breathing and was unconscious due to the profuse bleeding from his leg. Officer Schmitz used the victim's belt to wrap around his bleeding leg while Officer Dombrowski retrieved the department tourniquet from their squad. The officers secured the tourniquet to the victim's leg causing the blood flow to subside. The officers put their safety aside and entered a hostile crowd to render lifesaving measures to a victim. The male subject was transported to the hospital and received treatment for his wounds.

Police Officer Joseph D. Goggins Police Officer Matthew J. Wenzel

Lifesaving Award

On April 8, 2016, Officers Goggins and Wenzel responded to a call for an unresponsive female near Miller Park and found the woman inside her idling locked vehicle. She was blue in color and Officer Wenzel could see no signs of breathing. In addition, Officer Goggins saw a needle in her lap. They recognized the situation as a probable heroin overdose and immediately took action to save her life. Officer Wenzel smashed the window of the vehicle and Officer Goggins reached in the car to put the vehicle in park. The officers worked together to remove the woman and immediately administered Narcan. She quickly responded and began breathing on her own. Medical help arrived and took the woman to a local hospital for further treatment and observation. As a result of their training, the officers saved this woman's life.

Police Officer Kevin G. Gaulke Meritorious Service Award

On August 10, 2016, Officer Gaulke responded to a call of a subject drowning in the Washington Park Pool. Officer Gaulke entered the pool area, removed his equipment and dove in to rescue the victim. He swam with the victim in his arms to the surface of the pool and began CPR until medical help arrived. Despite Officer Gaulke's brave efforts, the victim succumbed to his injuries. Officer Gaulke demonstrated courage and exceptionally quick thinking when he was confronted with this daunting situation.

Police Officer Michael Lopez Meritorious Service Award

On April 9, 2016, Officer Lopez was alerted to the sounds of gunfire as he passed through the intersection of West Atkinson Avenue and West Roosevelt Drive. After scanning the area, Officer Lopez stopped and talked to a man who he suspected fired the weapon. After the field interview, the man stated he was a victim of an attempted armed robbery. Officer Lopez recorded details of the physical description of the suspect and referred the incident to the Criminal Investigation Division.

District Three

Captain Shunta A. Boston-Smith

Weeks later, Officer Lopez was near 44th and Wright when he saw a suspect who fit the description of the armed robber. A field investigation revealed this to be the same individual in the armed robbery attempt. Officer Lopez and his partner immediately took the suspect into custody where a handgun and drugs were found in his possession. The suspect had a history of criminal activity and a felony warrant for probation violation. Officer Lopez demonstrated diligence in his pursuit of the apprehension of this criminal. His dedication to the protection of the citizens of Milwaukee led to the arrest of a dangerous criminal.

Mr. Michael A. Beal

Valorous Conduct Award

On February 28th, 2016, Mr. Beal ran an errand for his wife at a pharmacy near 59th and Lisbon. While in the checkout line, Mr. Beal noticed a man reaching into the cash drawer with his left hand while carrying a hammer in his right hand. Mr. Beal, without regard for his own safety, swiftly grabbed the hammer from the suspect's hand. The suspect ran out of the store without stealing the money. Mr. Beal remained calm and was able to relate the flight path of the suspect to responding officers. Mr. Beal placed the welfare of the store's employees and customers above his own and acted heroically to disrupt this violent crime.

Ms. Elizabeth D. Nelson

Meritorious Conduct Award

On September 2, 2016, Ms. Nelson saw a woman lying on the ground by a car near 70th and Main Street. She was having a seizure and turning blue. Ms. Nelson, who is a nurse, determined the woman's breathing was extremely shallow and her pulse was faint. Immediately, Ms. Nelson called 9-1-1 and then began chest compressions until medical help arrived. Ms. Nelson's quick actions and immediate intervention prevented the loss of life.

Mr. Ronald L. Williams Meritorious Conduct Award

On July 30th, 2016, Mr. Williams saw a man pulling on an elderly woman's purse while she was standing on a corner near 35th and Wells. Mr. Williams, without regard for his own safety, chased the man and demanded he give back the purse. As a result, the man threw the purse onto the ground and fled. Mr. Williams immediately reported this incident to the police and was able to return the purse to the victim. The Milwaukee Police Department recognizes Mr. Williams' commitment to making Milwaukee a safe place for all citizens.

District Four

Captain Andra P. Williams

Police Officer William T. Kingston III

Police Officer Joseph P. Spingola Medal of Valor-Combat Award

Police Officer Daniel W. Stachoviak

Police Officer Lee Xiong Medal of Valor-Rescue Award

Mr. Jobe Griffin Valorous Conduct Award

On July 30, 2016, Mr. Griffin saw a father trying to throw his three-month old baby into a lake near 74th and Glenbrook. Mr. Griffin rushed into the lake and tried to pull the child away from his father. When the group of officers arrived, the father refused to come out and submerged the baby deeper in the water. Officers Kingston and Spingola dove into the lake to pursue the homicidal father and eventually took him into custody. Officers Stachoviak and Xiong located the child in the murky water and began CPR when they reached dry land. Tragically, the child did not survive. These officers and Mr. Griffin demonstrated extraordinary courage under fire and put themselves in danger during an extremely tense and emotional incident.

Police Officer James J. Dauer Police Officer Marshall Jones

Lifesaving Award

On May 6, 2016, Officers Dauer and Jones responded to a suicide attempt in the 5600 block of North Lovers Lane Road. A woman was attempting to jump from a bridge. Officer Jones grabbed the woman's arm in an attempt to pull her back over the railing. The weight of the woman started to pull her and Officer Jones over the railing. Officer Dauer quickly acted and pulled both of them back to safety. Officer Dauer and Jones' team effort prevented the loss of life.

Police Officer Nicholas Gronwall Lifesaving Award

On August 21, 2016, Officer Gronwall and his partner were on patrol near 60th and Good Hope when they saw a car cross into oncoming traffic and strike a curb. Officer Gronwall noticed the driver appeared to be unresponsive. Officer Gronwall administered Narcan to the man in an attempt to bring the man to a conscious state. The officer removed the man from the car and started performing chest compressions and sternum rubs until the subject responded to treatment. When the subject came to, he confessed to Officer Gronwall he had overdosed on a drug. The subject was transported to the hospital for further treatment. Officer Gronwall's immediate intervention prevented the loss of life.

Police Officer Matthew G. Helwer

Lifesaving Award

On August 8, 2016, Officer Helwer, while on bicycle patrol near 37th and Thurston, heard several gunshots fired a block away. Officer Helwer responded to the area where he saw a man on the ground bleeding profusely from a gunshot wound to his right leg. Officer Helwer immediately obtained a tourniquet and tied it around the victim's leg. Officer Helwer applied pressure to an additional gunshot wound on the victim. Medical help arrived and transported the victim to the hospital for treatment where he survived his injuries. Officer Helwer's immediate actions saved the victim's life.

Police Officer Christopher M. Shorts Meritorious Service Award

On February 14, 2016, Officer Shorts received an email containing information about a theft from a vehicle on Milwaukee's Northwest side. He viewed still photos of a suspect and vehicle. Officer Shorts was able to identify a suspect that had been connected with previous investigations he had worked on. Officer Shorts retrieved video footage from prior investigations and noticed the clothing and physical description of the suspect was similar to the still photos. The suspect was later taken into custody. Officer Shorts demonstrated dedication and professionalism during his investigation resulting in the apprehension of the suspect.

District Five

Captain Timothy S. Heier

Police Sergeant Misty Torres Police Officer Andrew T. Fuerte Police Officer Nicholas M. Kropp Police Officer Bryan K. Miller

Police Officer Courtland A. Pederson Lifesaving Award

On August 23, 2015, Officer Pederson was working in the District Five booking room while working as a Police Aide. While performing cell checks, he saw a prisoner hang himself. Officer Pederson immediately called for assistance from his fellow officers. Sergeant Torres brought in an AED machine while Officer Fuerte freed the prisoner from the cell bars. Officer Kropp carried the prisoner into the hallway so officers could perform CPR until medical help arrived. The teamwork exhibited by this group of officers prevented the loss of life.

Police Officer Chad E. Boyack Police Officer Mark S. Dillman Police Officer Anthony J. Milone

Lifesaving Award

On June 17, 2016, the officers were on patrol near 22nd and Nash when they found a man in the street without a pulse and not breathing.

District Five

Captain Timothy S. Heier

The group retrieved a pocket mask, called for medical attention and requested an AED machine. They performed chest compressions until medical help arrived and conveyed the subject to the hospital for treatment where he survived his injuries. The quick thinking, heroic actions, and determination by these officers prevented the loss of life.

Police Officer Matthew R. Jackson

Lifesaving Award

On August 7, 2016, Officer Jackson was notified by a citizen of a possible shooting near 4th and Chambers. Officer Jackson saw an unresponsive man with a gunshot wound to the right upper thigh. Immediately, Officer Jackson applied a tourniquet above the gunshot wound to prevent the loss of blood. Medical help arrived and transported the subject to the hospital for further treatment. Officer Jackson's immediate intervention prevented the loss of life.

Police Officer Daniel A. Resnick Police Officer Damon W. Wilcox

Lifesaving Award

On April 17, 2016, Officers Resnick and Wilcox responded to a shooting scene near 23rd and Melvina. The officers found a man suffering from a gunshot wound to the face and back. The officers secured the area and immediately began CPR until medical help arrived. The officers continued to perform lifesaving measures during a chaotic situation and an emotionally charged crime scene. Their determination to render aide to a victim resulted in the prevention of a loss of life.

Police Officer Edward A. Ciano Distinguished Service Award

Throughout 2016, Officer Ciano organized various interactive events with the youth of District Five. Officer Ciano's proactive engagement with the youth living in a challenged area built trust between District Five officers and the community. Officer Ciano is committed to the vision and mission of the Milwaukee Police Department and has helped foster positive relationships between District Five and the community they serve.

Police Officer Brian D. Matte Police Officer Sarah A. Polka

Distinguished Service Award

From 2011 to 2015, Officers Matte and Polka were assigned to the District Five burglary car. They worked tirelessly to resolve the number of burglaries committed and contributed to reducing the burglary rate by approximately 43 percent. The officers accomplished this by targeting prolific offenders, looking for traces of solvability and conducting follow-up on leads. They also recovered thousands of dollars in stolen property. The officers demonstrated the highest level of professionalism and devotion and ultimately combatted crime, fear, and disorder throughout the city.

District Five

Captain Timothy S. Heier

Police Officer Jesse Busshardt

Police Officer Robert J. Gregory Meritorious Service Award

On February 26, 2016, Officers Busshardt and Gregory assisted another officer in a vehicle pursuit. The vehicle was stopped and became suddenly engulfed in flames near 13th and Fond du Lac. Officer Busshardt broke a window of the car and saw a man pinned and unresponsive inside. He began chest compressions while the man was still inside of the burning vehicle. Officer Gregory tried to extinguish the fire which was coming from the engine compartment. Officer Gregory assisted with chest compressions until medical help arrived. The victim later succumbed to his injuries. Officers Busshardt and Gregory showed extreme courage and acted decisively under extreme circumstances.

Police Officer Curtis J. Pelczynski Meritorious Service Award

On November 15, 2015, Officer Pelczynski was dispatched to a shooting in Riverwest. He located a witness that was able to show him key details about what led up to the shooting. The witness also identified an item the suspect had touched and DNA evidence was able to be preserved. Officer Pelczynski showed a photo array of a potential suspect to the victim and witness which led to the identification of a suspect. Officer Pelczynski coordinated efforts with the district to apprehend the suspect who was later arrested. Officer Pelczynski demonstrated perseverance and dedication to this case and was ultimately able to apprehend a dangerous criminal.

District Six

Captain Diana Rowe

Police Officer James B. Johnson

Police Officer Jutiki X Medal of Valor-Rescue Award

Police Officer Brandon J. Baranowski Purple Star Award

Police Sergeant Joseph W. Honezelka Police Officer Vincent M. Andrysczyk

Police Officer Fabian Garcia Police Officer Justin M. Jolliff

Police Officer Susan M. Laroque-Wishowski

Police Officer Michael S. Maldonado

Emergency Communications Operator II Nancy E. Daniels

Meritorious Service Award

On July 17, 2016, Officer Baranowski responded to a call for service near 17th and Morgan. While seated in his squad, a gunman ambushed him and shot him several times. Officer Baranowski, while fighting through excruciating pain, broadcasted a call on his radio for help.

Officers Johnson and X rushed to the scene and applied pressure to Officer Baranowski's wounds and kept him calm until medical treatment arrived.

At the scene, Sergeant Honzelka took control and ascertained the situation. He remained composed and continued to direct all the responding resources. Officers Andrysczyk, Garcia, Jolliff, Laroque-Wishowski, and Maldonado provided protective cover to the officer as he was carried to safety.

MPD's response to this call resulted in nearly 100 different units. ECO II Daniels kept track of personnel and was able to relay key information when needed. She kept calm and was extremely professional during this stressful situation, never leaving her position for more than three hours.

These men and women displayed extraordinary courage and put themselves in harm's way to tend to Officer Baranowski. They all remained vigilant to the threat of the active shooter who at the time was still at large. The courage and quick thinking of this group during an extremely difficult time is commended.

District Seven Captain Boris Turcinovic
Police Officer Peter Hauser
Police Officer Jacob Spano Medal of Valor-Combat Award

On November 2, 2015, Officers Hauser and Spano were on bicycle patrol near 34th and Auer and saw a suspicious car parked in an alley. Cautiously the officers approached the vehicle. They discovered it was occupied by three individuals. Officer Spano shined his light on the passenger and saw a gun lying across his lap. The suspect grabbed his gun and began to sweep it towards the officers. Fearing for his safety, Officer Spano discharged his weapon at the subject causing the suspects to surrender. The subject then pressed his muzzle against the car window and a shot was fired at the officers. Officer Hauser fearing for his safety discharged his weapon into the vehicle. All three subjects inside the car were taken into custody and were charged with multiple crimes. In addition to the vehicle being stolen, there was an additional gun discovered. These officers displayed resourcefulness, tenacity, and diligence and drew upon their experience and expertise to ensure that armed suspects were taken off the street.

Police Officer Zebdee Wilson (Ret.) Medal of Valor-Combat Award Police Officer Trinidad Rodriguez Meritorious Service Award

On April 15, 2015, Officer Rodriguez, was informed of a suspicious vehicle with three suspects possibly casing a business near 67th and Hampton. Two suspects exited the vehicle with masks and entered the business. Officer Rodriguez arrived and approached the third suspect in the vehicle and kept him detained for other arriving officers. Officer Rodriguez then entered the store and began clearing the scene.

District Seven

Captain Boris Turcinovic

An armed suspect was located by Police Officer Wilson, who has since retired from the Milwaukee Police Department, and was subdued after an exchange of gunfire. Officer Rodriguez continued to clear the store, apprehending the second subject without further incident. Officers Rodriguez and Wilson moved rapidly to ensure the safety of innocent citizens whose lives were in serious danger. They successfully removed three criminals from the street thereby protecting the community they are dedicated to serving.

Police Officer Troy L. Mason

Lifesaving Award

On June 1, 2016, Officer Mason responded to a shooting near 35th and Townsend. Officer Mason found a man that was suffering from a gunshot wound. He immediately began performing chest compressions while tending to the wound. Medical help arrived and the victim was transported to the hospital for further treatment. Officer Mason's quick thinking and heroic actions prevented the loss of life.

Police Aide Jonathan C. Schroeder

Lifesaving Award

On March 20, 2016, Police Aide Schroeder was assigned to the District Seven booking room. While processing a prisoner, he completed the Prisoner Medical Intake Screening by asking medical questions pertaining to the health and wellness of the prisoner. Police Aide Schroeder then placed this prisoner in a cell pursuant to procedures. He continued with his duties and later discovered the prisoner hanging from the cell bars. Police Aide Schroeder immediately activated the emergency alarm which notified officers to respond to the booking room. The prisoner was subsequently removed from the cell and carefully laid on the ground by Police Aide Schroeder. Officers assisted him while he summoned medical assistance. The prisoner was transported to a local hospital and treated for his injuries.

Captain of Police Eric J. Moore Meritorious Service Award Mr. Xay Yang Valorous Conduct Award

On February 20, 2016, Captain Moore was off duty near 55th and Capitol when he noticed several suspicious actors in the area. Captain Moore was made aware that Mr. Yang and other citizens were chasing the actors because they had committed an armed robbery in a church parking lot. Captain Moore joined in the effort to apprehend these suspects. Two of the suspects were seen running toward a residence. One suspect entered the home and the other remained outside. Captain Moore approached both suspects and announced he was a Milwaukee Police Officer. He summoned officers to the scene for assistance and these suspects were taken into custody. Captain Moore and Mr. Yang demonstrated bravery and courage and took decisive actions to ensure the safety of the citizens in their community.

District Seven

Captain Boris Turcinovic

Police Officer David J. Bettin Police Officer Jose A. Lopez

Police Officer Trinidad Rodriguez Meritorious Service Award

On June 16, 2015, officers were informed of a suspicious individual exiting a local business near 76th and Hampton. The officers responded to the area and spotted the suspect. As a result of their keen observations, they noticed he matched photos seen during roll call. The suspect immediately fled when he noticed the officers. After a foot pursuit, the officers apprehended the suspect and took him into custody. A gun was recovered and the suspect confessed to five armed robberies of local businesses. These officers were determined to remove the threat to the safety of the citizens they are committed to protect. Their quick actions and keen observation resulted in the successful apprehension of a suspect who intended to harm others.

Police Sergeant Bradley J. Buddenhagen

Police Officer David J. Bettin Police Officer Lane C. Grady

Police Officer Trinidad Rodriguez Meritorious Service Award

On August 27, 2016, Officers Bettin and Rodriguez were on patrol near 37th and Congress and saw a suspicious person. They observed the suspect fire shots at a subject and thereby wounding him. The suspect immediately fled the scene. Sergeant Buddenhagen and Officer Grady responded to the call for assistance and joined in the chase of the suspect. As a result of their collaboration and teamwork, the officers took the suspect into custody. The suspect's weapon was recovered and removed from the street. Confronted with a dangerous situation, these officers immediately took action to restore a safe community where citizens can live without fear. Officers Rodriguez and Grady acted with courage and determination and are recognized with a Meritorious Service Award.

Facilities Services Division Mr. Richard W. Moore Custodial Worker II Joe Adams Meritorious Service Award

On August 2, 2016, Custodial Worker Adams, while performing his duties, saw a suspicious subject outside District Four walking with tools in his hand. Mr. Adams immediately brought this behavior to the attention of District Four officers. The officers conducted a field interview with the citizen. Further investigation revealed a warrant for his arrest. Officers discovered the suspect had stolen the tools from a construction van parked in the area. Mr. Adams' keen observation skills were instrumental in the apprehension of a thief and recovery of stolen property.

<u>Investigative Management Division</u> Captain Jeffrey M. Point Forensic Investigator Chet St. Clair Distinguished Service Award

In May 2016, there was a backlog of 140 cases and the method for processing evidence was unorganized in the Forensics Division. Forensic Investigator St. Clair took initiative and established a priority system which simplified how evidence was received. As a result of this re-organization of received evidence, guns could be processed efficiently. This new system aided in the facilitation of discussions with the Wisconsin Crime Lab to obtain DNA results taken from firearms. Forensic Investigator St. Clair is dedicated to improving the Forensic Lab so prosecutions can be successful as it relates to firearms. He constantly seeks out training to improve his knowledge in processes which can help identify criminals. Forensic Investigator St. Clair has demonstrated a high level of professionalism and dedication to his duties by making the Forensics Division more efficient.

Metropolitan Investigations Division

Acting Captain Lt. Paul J. Formolo

Detective Marlon E. Davis

Detective Rosemarie C. Galindo

Detective Katherine M. Spano

Detective Harold D. Thomas

Detective Erik K. Villarreal

Detective Michael C. Washington Meritorious Service Award

On November 6th, 2014, district squads were dispatched to a shooting of a five year-old child. The child did not survive her wounds. Witnesses described seeing the suspects flee in a dark colored vehicle with tinted windows; however the suspect's identities were unknown.

At the onset of the investigation, the case generated a great deal of inaccurate and unrelated information along with reliable investigative leads. The investigation proved difficult and challenging due to a number of factors. The most significant being there was no connection between the child's family and those ultimately found responsible for her death. As a result of hard work and diligence, this investigation revealed multiple other cases linked through ballistic evidence. This team of detectives played a crucial role in finding witnesses and suspects. Eventually the arrest and conviction of several suspects were made and firearms were recovered.

This team of detectives were determined to bring those responsible for this tragic event to justice and are therefore recognized with a Meritorious Service Award.

Narcotics Division Captain Jeffery C. Micklitz

Detective Abner Valcarcel

Police Officer Evelyn Lazo Excellence in Police Service Award

From October of 2014 to January 2016, Detective Valcarcel and Officer Lazo led members of the Narcotics Division in the investigation of numerous robberies occurring in both Milwaukee and Waukesha Counties. After several months of developing and linking cases together through interviews and networking with other investigators, search warrants were executed leading to the arrest of several suspects. The officers, while leading this investigative group, were able to link the criminal incidents and activity. This resulted in the clearance of several robberies and the federal indictments of seven suspects. These officers demonstrated a high level of professionalism and devotion to duty by helping bring criminals to justice.

Neighborhood Task Force Captain Leslie M. Thiele Police Officer Steven J. Kuspa Medal of Valor-Combat Award

On April 21, 2016, Officer Kuspa was on an unrelated investigation and heard gunshots near 29th and Concordia. Officer Kuspa immediately responded to the gunfire and located the male suspect. Numerous gunshots were fired at several vehicles and houses by the suspect. Officer Kuspa engaged the man with deadly force because the suspect was firing rounds in the direction of other officers and citizens on scene. Officer Kuspa's actions ended the threat to others and the suspect was taken into custody. Officer Kuspa put himself in peril but was determined to protect the citizens of the community. He pursued the criminal and ended the threat of his criminal behavior.

Police Officer Casey C. Donahue Police Officer Andrew T. Fuerte Police Officer Eric A. Northwood Police Officer Ryan M. Reagan

Lifesaving Award

On September 7, 2016, officers responded to shots fired near 28th and Hadley. The officers discovered a victim inside a nearby home who had multiple gunshot wounds throughout his body. After analyzing the situation and requesting medical attention, the officers started cutting off the victim's clothes in order to locate his wounds. Noticing severe bleeding coming from the victim's body, the officers applied several tourniquets to the areas. The officers continued to perform first aide to this shooting victim to prevent his death. The victim was transported to the hospital for medical treatment. Due to their immediate response and training, these officers saved the victims life.

Neighborhood Task Force

Captain Leslie M. Thiele

Police Lieutenant Kristin K. Felsman

Police Sergeant James E. Bryce

Police Sergeant Michael C. Karwoski

Police Officer Joseph M. Boehlke

Police Officer David L. Claas

Police Officer Daniel J. Floyd

Police Officer Miles D. Kowalik Jr.

Police Officer Steven J. Kuspa

Police Officer Warren K. McDuffie Sr.

Police Officer Matthew Murray

Police Officer Procopio G. Orlando

Police Officer Erik D. Rodriguez

Police Officer Joseph A. Scheuring Meritorious Service Award

On February 20, 2016, officers responded to 26th and Stark for a hostage situation. A father was holding his son at knife point and was threatening to kill him if police tried to enter his home. Negotiations with the suspect began immediately. The suspect stated he was going to turn on the gas and blow up the house. These highly skilled officers devised a plan to make entry into the home while securing the safety of the victim. Once inside the home, officers located the suspect and detained him while safely removing his son. The suspect was taken into custody without loss of life to himself or his son. These officers effectively removed a victim from a dangerous suspect who intended serious harm. As a result of this teams skillful actions and tactics, lives were spared and the suspect was removed from the community.

North Investigations Division Captain Johnny C. Sgrignuoli Detective Rodney B. Young Medal of Valor-Rescue Award

On June 21, 2016, Detective Young was on patrol and came across an accident near 24th and Fairmount. Two cars had collided and one of the vehicles was engulfed in flames. Detective Young worked tirelessly to remove the driver from the vehicle. In the process, he sustained extensive burns to his own hands and arms. The victim was removed from the vehicle and transported to the hospital where he later succumbed to his injuries. Detective Young knew that attempting to remove the subject from the burning vehicle would be a potential hazard to his own personal safety. The Milwaukee Police Department honors Detective Young for his heroic actions.

Office of Community Outreach and Education

Captain Raymond E. Banks

Ms. Susan Hargraves

Meritorious Service Award

On June 18th, 2016, Ms. Hargraves completed thirty years with the Milwaukee Police Department as a Police Auxiliary. Auxiliary Hargraves has successfully executed, to the best of her ability, the orders designated with this assignment. She has made a significant contribution above and beyond the ordinary call of duty to the Milwaukee Police Department's mission. She is deeply committed to District Four and has held the positions of President, Vice President, Sergeant of Arms and Treasurer for her unit. Auxiliary Hargraves has proven that she is reliable and is an example of excellence to the community she serves.

Sensitive Crimes Division Captain Aimee M. Obregon
Detective Sarah C. Blomme
Police Officer James R. Henry Jr. Meritorious Service Award

On May 19, 2016, Detective Blomme and Officer Henry observed a house engulfed in flames near 34th and St. Paul. Detective Blomme saw a suspect attempting to damage the fire hose being used to extinguish the fire. The officers removed the suspect from the area without incident. While waiting for the suspect to be transported, he admitted to starting the fire. Detective Blomme and Officer Henry ensured the safety of the community through immediate intervention and removal of a dangerous suspect who intended to harm citizens and damage property. Their actions prevented fatalities and reduced fear in this community.

Excellence in Police Service Award

Narcotics Division
Captain of Police Jeffery C. Micklitz

<u>District Four</u> Police Officer Phillip B. Lewis

<u>District Five</u> Police Officer Robert J. Gregory

These officers have been recognized by Chief of Police Edward Flynn with a letter of commendation three times in a one-year time span. The letters of commendation recognize their consistent outstanding performance. They continue to strive for excellence through their dedication to go above and beyond the ordinary call of duty. They are repeatedly recognized for their outstanding contribution to the mission of the Milwaukee Police Department.

<u>Unit Service Award Recipients</u> "Bless Team Task Force"

Police Lieutenant Shaun P. Doyne
Detective Matthew Cooper
Detective John H. Ivy
Police Officer Martez L. Ball
Police Officer Joseph L. Esqueda
Police Officer Gregory M. Kuspa
Police Officer Andrew J. Molina
Police Officer Christopher J. Randazzo
Police Officer John L. Schott
Police Officer Ashley E. Van Drisse
Investigative Analyst Ashlee Hindo
DCI Special Agent Bodo Gajevic
DEA Special Agent James Krueger

Milwaukee County Assistant District Attorney Laura Crivello South Milwaukee Police Department Investigator Craig Perkowski West Allis Police Department Detective Michael Sitter

Unit Service Award

In August 2015, MPD's Narcotics Division and other law enforcement partners from Wisconsin HIDTA, began an investigation into a violent organization known as the "Bless Team". This group was connected to drug dealing, firearm violations, carjackings, pursuits, and drug overdose deaths in and around the Milwaukee area. The first part of this operation focused on gathering field intelligence about the "Bless Team" while managing a confidential informant who was a key player in developing this case. The second part of this operation involved extensive investigation and the execution of search warrants that led to the seizure of firearms, money and illegal drugs. Several arrests were made, felony and misdemeanor charges were issued and three homicides were cleared. The superior efforts and persistence of these investigators, analysts, supervisors and prosecutors in this operation resulted in the successful dismantling of the Bless Team.

In Memory of those who gave their lives in the line of duty

Frank Piszczek 6/22/1884	Raymond A. Nencki 0/05/1959
John Kossow	Robert Kraemer 2/7/1963
Ernest Johnson 9/15/1904	James J. Rivers
Otto H. Flieth 12/17/1908	Ronald T. Hogan 5/2/1967
Peter Gauer	Bryan Moschea 7/31/1967
Charles W. Gudgell 8/22/1916	George Fish 9/23/1970
Frank Caswin 11/24/1917	Alan Sroczynski 11/8/1970
Henry Deckert 11/24/1917	Paul DuPlanty 11/9/1971
Frederick Kaiser 11/24/1917	Gerald Hempe 1/31/1973
David O'Brien 11/24/1917	Charles T. Smith 1/31/1973
Charles Seehawer 11/24/1917	Ronald Reagan 12/13/1973
Edward Spindler 11/24/1917	Thomas G. Matulis 7/10/1974
Stephen Stecker 11/24/1917	Robert D. Riley 7/10/1974
Albert Templin 11/24/1917	Michael Draeger 12/28/1974
Paul Weiler 11/24/1917	Dennis Obradovich 8/17/1975
William Kaemmerling 1/26/1922	Albert Kohn 10/29/1975
Joseph Kubacki 5/24/1924	Thomas Kiefer 11/25/1977
Walter Luedtke 12/18/1924	John Machajewski 12/23/1981
Harold W. Schmidt 4/4/1925	Charles S. Mehlberg 12/23/1981
Hilbert Thurow 8/22/1930	Sydney C. Snow 1/20/1982
Robert Bahlke 2/23/1932	Rosario J. Collura 3/19/1985
Richard R. Zingler 2/8/1933	Leonard R. Lesnieski 3/19/1985
Harry Pieske 6/27/1935	Dennis J. Gorlewski 2/25/1987
Charles George 6/8/1936	Roger A. Sterling 5/11/1987
Nelson Goodman 8/10/1937	Steve J. Hasenstab 8/19/1989
George Raabe 11/2/1937	Richard E. Wagner 10/25/1990
Joseph Lecher	Michael R. Tourmo 11/18/1990
Arnold Werner 7/10/1943	William A. Robertson 9/7/1994
Valentine Adam	Michael A. Niehoff 12/1/1994
Elmer W. Bates 8/23/1948	Wendolyn O. Tanner 9/7/1996
Vernon White 11/10/1951	

Be sure to visit the Fallen Officers' Memorial Wall located just outside the Main Office

Core Values

Competence

We are prudent stewards of the public's grant of authority and resources. We are accountable for the quality of our performance and the standards of our conduct. We are exemplary leaders and exemplary followers.

Courage

We place the safety of others before our own and accept our moral responsibility to take action against injustice and wrongdoing. Police members are expected to take prudent risks on behalf of the public.

Integrity

We recognize the complexity of police work and exercise discretion in ways that are beyond reproach and worthy of public trust. Honesty and truthfulness are fundamental elements of integrity. It is our duty to earn public trust through consistent words and actions. We are honest in word and deed.

Leadership

We seek to influence human behavior to achieve organizational goals that serve the public while developing individuals, teams and the organization for future service. We accept our responsibility to be leaders, both within the community and among our peers, and for the actions of our colleagues and ourselves. We are all responsible for the performance, reputation and morale of the Department.

Respect

We hold life in the highest regard. We treat all citizens and colleagues with dignity and respect, and are fair and impartial as we perform our duties.

Restraint

We use the minimum force and authority necessary to accomplish a proper police purpose. We demonstrate self-discipline, even when no one is listening or watching.

When you do nothing you become powerless.

But when you get involved, you feel the sense of hope and accomplishment that comes from knowing you are working to make things better for everyone.

-Author Unknown



BE A FORCE

Special thanks to the City of Milwaukee residents for their continued support and cooperation in helping to keep our city safe.